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Supervisor Cook's Neighborhood Speeding Initiative Kicks Off

In August, Fairfax County launched the first installment of Supervisor Cook's Neighborhood Speeding Initiative which was previously passed and funded by the Board of Supervisors. The kickoff event began a public education campaign to curb neighborhood speeding in Fairfax County.

The initiative is comprised of a vigorous awareness campaign that will remind drivers to slow down in neighborhoods. The campaign will feature the slogan, "Slow Down: You live here. We live here." and will include community education events throughout the fall.

The robust campaign is a collaborative endeavor between Supervisor Cook's office, the Board of Supervisors, the County Office of Public Affairs, and the Fairfax County Police Department.

Because this is truly a neighborhood issue, Supervisor Cook encourages Home Owners and Civic Associations to pass a resolution that establishes each neighborhood as a safe driving community, where citizens pledge to slow down and be aware of safety issues. Sample text for the resolution is posted at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/slowdown and a Tool Kit for Associations will be posted in the coming days.



Supervisor Cook has served on Fairfax County Board of Supervisors since 2009 and lives in Kings Park with his wife and children.



Supervisor Cook in the Community

On Fridays during the summer, Supervisor Cook did his best to get out to Lake Accotink and Royal Lake Parks for Braddock Nights. **August 29th** was the final concert and we look forward to another successful season next year. Thank you to everyone who attended and volunteered.

On August 5th, Supervisor Cook visited several neighborhoods with members of the Fairfax County Police Department in celebration of National Night Out. The neighborhoods that they stopped by at were Bonnie Brae, Middleridge, Woodbury Woods, Somerset Olde Creek, Rutherford, Kings Park and North Springfield.

On August 12th, Supervisor Cook was honored to attend and speak at the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Awards Ceremony which was held at Fire Station 408 in Annandale.

On August 14th, Supervisor Cook took part in the annual Shop with a Sheriff event which is sponsored every year by the Fairfax County Sheriff's Department. Each year, a busload of children from economically disadvantaged

households is escorted to the Target in Burke to shop with officers for school supplies and clothing. Funds are donated to pay for the goods.

On August 28th, Supervisor Cook helped to kick off his newly proposed Speeding Initiative at the Emergency Vehicle Operations Center in Chantilly. Many VIP's were present for this campaign which bears the slogan, "Slow Down: You Live Here, We Live Here". More can be found about this in this edition of the Beacon.



Braddock Neighborhood News

Supervisor Cook hosts a monthly television show, Braddock Neighborhood News, on Fairfax County Channel 16 which is available on most cable networks. Each month, Supervisor Cook invites topical guests on to share pertinent and informative items with the viewers.



This month's show features Belinda Buescher and Jim Kelly from the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board. During the month of September we take time to recognize Suicide Awareness. This topic is a difficult one but one that needs to be addressed. By the end of this show we were better aware of the warning signs shown by someone who may be contemplating suicide and now have a better understanding of how to help them.

The shows air throughout the month and can be seen Sundays at 5pm, Wednesdays at 7pm and Fridays at 5pm.

Land Use Update

Fairfax Center “Transition Area” Comprehensive Plan. The staff report for this proposed update to the Comprehensive Plan is now published and [online](#). The public hearing before the Planning Commission, now scheduled for September 17 may be deferred to allow for additional community input on the staff’s recommendations.

Burke Junction. The applicant is currently completing easement agreements with an adjacent property owner that will align the new subdivision entrance with Hilliard Lake Road. To conclude and record these easements, and allow for additional staff review of a revised layout that reflects the changes, a public hearing before the Planning Commissioner is now scheduled on November 6.

SD Homes (Twinbrook Road). The applicant has submitted revised plans for staff and community review to allow for more tree preservation, revised stormwater detention and a contribution for the future widening of Twinbrook Road. A public hearing in late October is probable.

Garden World. The applicant has requested a deferral of the public hearing currently scheduled for September 17 to work on layout and stormwater issues raised by staff and the community. A new public hearing date of November 6 has tentatively been set.

Mrs. Rati’s Family Home Daycare (SE 2014-BR-039). This Special Exception application has been received for review and analysis at 10639 John Ayres Drive. The applicant, K.C. Rati, requests permission to care for up to 12 children in her single family home. A public hearing before the Planning Commission is scheduled for November 6.

Chik-fil-A. Burke Center Parkway. An application was accepted this week for public review and comment for a drive-thru Chik-fil-A at the location of a pad bank site adjacent to Kohl’s in

Burke Center. A Community Information Meeting has been set for 7:30 p.m. on Monday, September 22 at the Commons Community Center, 5701 Roberts Parkway at which the developer will share this proposal with the community and hear comments and concerns.



Preliminary Layout for Chik-fil-A in Burke Center

Kings Park Shopping Center Work Progresses. Demolition is complete and regrading has begun in the area of the Center that will house the new Giant. The owners of the Center have asked that residents be aware that the month of September is scheduled to be the most hectic and “painful” for customers. Water lines and other utilities that will serve Giant are being run under Rolling Road, necessitating the closure of that entrance for most of the month. In addition, the start of parking lot alterations have begun with demolition of old islands and installation of new ones. During this phase, lighting will be temporarily affected although efforts are being made to adjust lighting from other poles to assure the broadest possible coverage. New and efficient LED lights will be installed in phases so that the entire center is not affected at one time. There will be some limited night time construction work during the month as well to diminish impacts on traffic in the area.

Human Services Corner

September is Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month

As we collectively acknowledge and perhaps even mourn the loss of many public figures to suicide, if it is possible to create a silver lining, it would be that these instances brings the stigmatized, ostracized ailment to the forefront of our conversations. We as a community have suffered many losses to suicide as well. Let us use these national examples as a compass to help us learn how we effectively navigate through these painful and confusing experiences.

Sometimes, life is very tricky, confusing and overwhelming. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline sends daily words of courage and inspiration on Facebook. Scrolling through the comments, you can clearly understand the immense challenge facing so many of our friends and family. The feeling of being lost or overwhelmed is not exclusive to any one age, gender, race or religion. All of us, all throughout life experience this feeling.

How can you get up? How can you catch your breath, even for just a minute, or help a friend? How can you know when help a friend? The process, the journey, is different for

everyone. There aren't precise instructions, but should you find yourself in these difficult situations, here are some resources:

There is the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline phone number. Hope is just a phone call away. Call 1-800-273-TALK (8255) if you're feeling hopeless. You can text, if that makes you more comfortable. Crisislink has the new text line 703-940-0888 or the more standard phone line 703-527-4077. You can also turn to the local the PRS CrisisLink [website](#).

Most importantly, talk to someone you love, even when you don't think anyone can make you feel better. There are more people than you know willing to listen.

If you are chosen, LISTEN with your heart. You don't have to solve the problem, just hear the person out. Give them the phone number above. Here is [a video](#) to help answer some questions.

At one point or another, we all need some help and it is okay to ask.



Environmental Update

VDOF Tree Nurseries Seek Public's Help With Acorn & Seed Collection



Virginians can help preserve tree species by collecting acorns and seeds from 12 species and delivering them to the nearest office of the Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF). Acorns and seeds must be received by October 10.

"Generally, the best time to collect acorns is the last week in September through the first week of October," said Josh McLaughlin, nursery forester. "Every bag of acorns and seed collected by citizens will help us keep Virginia beautiful."

The species most needed are: Alleghany Chinkapin; Chinese Chestnut; Hazelnut; Black Oak; Chestnut Oak; Northern Red Oak; Pin Oak; Swamp Chestnut Oak; Swamp White Oak; White Oak; Willow Oak, and Black Walnut.

"Lawns or paved areas are ideal collection sites," McLaughlin said. "A single tree located in these areas makes identifying the acorns easier." He added that you should not collect from trees in the forest, since it can be difficult to identify acorns when many different species are nearby.

McLaughlin reminds anyone who is interested in collecting acorns or seed to: use paper bags (no plastic bags) to hold the acorns or seed; identify the tree species on the bag, and to not combine acorn or seed from different tree species in the same paper bag.

To locate a VDOF office nearest you, visit the [website](#).

Solar Co-op Informational Meeting

The Northern Virginia Interfaith Solar Co-op will be providing information Northern Virginia residents who are interested in solar power for their homes and how to reduce the cost of installation at an upcoming informational meeting. There will be an informational meeting

held at St. Stephens United Methodist Church on Braddock Road on Sept. 15th at 7:30pm. This meeting is open to all Northern Virginia residents. There is no fee involved to attend and no commitment required.

Public Meeting about Water Quality

What: Public Meeting regarding the Water Quality Studies on Accotink Creek and Long Branch Sponsored by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

When: Wednesday, September 10, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Where: Kings Park Library, Meeting Room - 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke, VA 22015

Why: Accotink Creek and Long Branch currently do not meet water quality standards due to poor health in the benthic biological communities.

Why is this meeting being held?

Since 1998, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has extensively tested Virginia's rivers, lakes and tidal waters for pollutants. More than 130 pollutants are monitored annually to determine whether the waters can be used for swimming, fishing and drinking. Waters that do not meet mandatory standards are reported to the citizens of Virginia and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the [Virginia Water Quality Assessment 305\(b\)/303\(d\) Integrated Report](#).

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and EPA's Water Quality Planning and Management Regulations (40 CFR Part 130) require states to develop Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for waterbodies which violate water quality standards. TMDL is a term that represents the total pollutants a body of water can assimilate and still meet federal and state standards.

Accotink Creek and Long Branch currently do not meet water quality standards due to poor health in the benthic biological communities.

Technical Advisory Committee Established

To assess the causes of this problem and develop a strategy for making improvements, a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has been established to work with the state to develop the TMDL. The first meeting of the TAC was held on August 26. A report of that meeting can be found [here](#).

Schedule

The first phase of this study entails completing a watershed characterization and finalizing a "stressor analysis", by February 2015. The second phase entails the development of a TMDL for Accotink Creek and Long Branch by February 2016.

Community Connections

Events

Annual Pool Leaders Meeting

Monday, September 29

Supervisor Cook will host a meeting for leaders of swim clubs in Braddock District to discuss permits, zoning requirements, and other important information. Ellen Eggerton, Ombudsman for Religious and Community Groups and Green Buildings, Department of Public Works and Environmental Services/Land Development Services, will be attending to help answer questions. Please email Ann Sharp at ann.sharp@fairfaxcounty.gov with any questions.

When: September 29, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Braddock Hall

University-Community Forum

Wednesday, October 1

Supervisor Cook invites all that are interested to attend the quarterly University-Community Forum on October 1. The quarterly meetings deal with relations between George Mason University and the surrounding community as well as traffic and parking issues in the community. Look for more information in a future advisory. If you have question, please feel free to contact Ann Sharp at ann.sharp@fairfaxcounty.gov.

When: October 1, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Kings Park Library

Oak Hill History Day

Saturday, September 27

Oak Hill, an 18th century Georgian-style home, is a historic gem in Braddock District. History will

come alive as we learn more about the music of the 1700's and 1800's at the Oak Hill Open House! John Vrana, the Annandale Symphony and members of the Navy Sea Chanters will be performing selections of music from Oak Hill's and our country's past. Oak Hill, a privately owned 18th century Georgian-style home, is all that remains of the Ravensworth Tract – which once totaled more than 22,000 acres. This was one of three plantations owned by the Fitzhugh family. The original home remains intact along with much of the historic landscape, including 200-year-old boxwoods.

When: September 27, 2013, from noon - 4:00 p.m.
Where: 4716 Wakefield Chapel Road, Annandale, VA 22003

For more information contact Ann Sharp at 703-425-9300 or ann.sharp@fairfaxcounty.gov

Meet and Greet the Candidates of the 11th Congressional District

Wednesday, September 10

Cosponsored by LWVFA, AARP, Providence District Council, CAPAVA

When: 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Where: Fairfax City Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax, VA 22030

More information [here](#).

Fall for the Book Festival

Thursday, September 11- Thursday, September 18

What began as a two-day literary event in 1999, organized by George Mason University and the City of Fairfax, has expanded into a week-long, multiple-venue, regional festival that brings together people of all ages and interests to listen to authors and discuss their favorite books. Twelve author talks will take place in the Fairfax area beginning with Science Talk with science authors and National Public Radio guests, Carl Zimmer and Sam Kean. The pair will be at the McLean Community Center Alden Theater, on Thursday, September 11 at 7:30 p.m. The last of the talks features an Evening with Richard Russo,

Pulitzer Prize winning author of Empire Falls and elsewhere on September 17 at 7:30 p.m. at George Mason University's Harris Theatre. Find a full listing of county and regional festival activities [here](#).

Northern Virginia Senior Olympics Opening Ceremony

Saturday, September 13

Time: 9 a.m. Ceremony (Please arrive at 8 a.m.)

Where: Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 3501 S 2nd St. Arlington, VA

Burke/West Springfield Senior Center Without Walls Genealogy Series

Meeting Every Second Saturday (3 p.m. – 5 p.m.)

at Pinn Community Center, 10225 Zion Drive

Find more information [here](#) or email corazonfoley@yahoo.com

Canine Cruises at Lake Accotink

Sunday, September 14

Treat your canine companion to a special cruise aboard Lake Accotink Park's pooch-friendly pontoon boat. This event is for humans 8 yrs and up and dogs all ages. Catch the last rays of the sun as it dips toward the distant lake shore while your dog scans for ducks, geese and other lake dwellers on Sunday, September 14 at 7 p.m. \$6 per person, no charge for dogs. Limit one dog per person. Reservations and advance payment required.

Senior Olympics Line Dance Competition

Monday, September 15

Time: 10 a.m.

Where: James Lee Center, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church, VA 22042

Paws to Read - Read to the Dog

Monday, September 15

Start Time: 4:00 P p.m at Kings Park Library

Practice reading with Grace, a trained therapy dog. Call the library or sign up online for a 15-minute session. This is for children ages 6-12 with an adult.

Secure Document Shredding

Saturday, September 20

8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Braddock Government Center

9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke 22015

This is a FREE service for Fairfax County residents. Residents may shred up to five medium-sized packing boxes worth of sensitive documents per household. All paper should be dry and removed from binding. Other prohibited items include: plastic document covers, metal binder clips, floppy discs, CDs, newspapers, junk mail, film and photographs

Specially Adapted Resource Clubs (SPARC)

Annual Golf Tournament

Monday, October 6

Annual Golf Tournament at Reston National Golf Course - Create a team and join in on all the fun. All proceeds go toward providing quality day activity for young adults with life-long disabilities in a community based setting. Can't golf but want to help? Make a donation. For more information visit this [website](#).

Annandale Fall Festival & Parade

Saturday, October 25

On Saturday, October 25, 2014 the Annandale Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a spectacular Fall Festival in the Safeway parking lot on Little River Turnpike. This is the largest public event in Greater Annandale. From 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. scores of merchants with handmade and fashion jewelry, art work, quality giftware from major manufacturers, exquisite crafts, pet accessories, garden accessories Silk Scarves and Shawls, children's toys and books, herbal spa lotions, and all manner of gifts for your holiday shopping.

Costumed international dancers, local Rock, Pop, and Jazz bands, and "The Taste of Annandale" with mouthwatering food from many culinary cuisines will be featured at this festival. The Kid's Zone will be filled with Inflatable Games, the popular Bungee Jump, Maze, Giant Slide, and

Toddler games & face painters in 'Lil Pirates Cove. Free Puppet Shows will be held in the Secret Garden at 1:00 and 3:00 p.m., and the Driving Simulator at the Nationwide NASCAR will test your racing skills.

The Annandale Parade runs from 10:00 a.m. to noon along Columbia Pike starting at Gallows Rd. For further information or Vendor, Volunteer, Entertainment, or Sponsorship forms visit the [website](#) under **Our Events** or write festival@annandalechamber.com. Plan to participate, volunteer, and have fun! Entry forms for the Parade can also be found on the Chamber website. Parade applications are due by no later than October 10th. However, spaces often fill earlier, and once filled, all subsequent applications will be returned. To be safe, submit your application as soon as possible.

National Preparedness Month Partnership - Police Department, OEM and OP3

The Office of Emergency Management is pleased to partner with the Police Department, Office of Public Private Partnerships and State Farm to present about family/community emergency preparedness and Fairfax Alerts information in each police station district in honor of September's National Preparedness Month. Emergency car kits from State Farm will be raffled off at each Citizen Advisory Committee meeting, and we hope this will encourage attendance. Mason District: Sept. 2 | Mount Vernon District: Sept. 9 | Franconia District: Sept. 17 | Fair Oaks District: Sept. 30 | West Springfield District: Oct. 7 | McLean District: Oct. 16 | Sully District: Nov. 12

IEP Informational Meeting

Saturday, November 15

Save the Date – Supervisor Cook will be hosting an Individualized Education Program (IEP) informational meeting for parents on Nov. 15

from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. More information will follow.

Volunteer Opportunities and Other News

Caregiver Can Vote By Absentee Ballot

If you are a caregiver for a person who is disabled or sick and confined at home, you are eligible to vote absentee, either in person or by mail. The following provides deadlines and information on how to vote absentee for the upcoming November 4 General Election. The election is for a U.S. Senate member, U.S. House of Representatives—8th, 10th, and 11th Congressional Districts, a Transportation Bond Referendum, and a Constitutional Amendment. Visit the [website](#) for more information on what is on the November 4 ballot. Note: All locations are closed Monday, October 13, and the last day to vote absentee in-person is Saturday, November 1.

Apply to Become a Weather Ready Nation Ambassador

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is accepting applications from both the public and private sector to become a Weather Ready Nation (WRN) Ambassador, as part of an initiative to unite national preparedness and response to severe weather threats. WRN ambassadors will serve as a point of contact between their organization and NOAA, sharing relevant safety messages from NOAA and National Weather Service knowledge. Find more information and apply [online](#).

Free IT on Call – Best Deal in Town!

The Fairfax Area Agency on Aging's is rolling out its new FREE Volunteer IT On-Call service for residents age 60 or older. Volunteer Solutions recruited and vetted a terrific group of skilled volunteers who will assist people with computer technology problems.

What kind of problems? The volunteers can't repair computers but they can fix minor problems such as frozen computers, re-connecting the printer, determining if you need a new browser level, and letting you know whether you should have your computer serviced. They can also teach you how to use Skype and other online services. They generally can resolve the problem within an hour.

Call the Aging, Disability and Caregiver Resource Line at 703-324-7948, TTY 711 and request a Volunteer IT On-Call. A county IT volunteer should be able to call you or visit your home within a week.

Volunteers Needed as Office Workers & Drivers!

Shepherd's Center of Fairfax Burke wishes to serve those 50+ and who no longer drive. **Driver's** trips normally take two hours and average about 20 miles, and destinations are to medical, dental, rehab, and shopping locations in the Fairfax and Burke regions. **Office Volunteers** take phone requests and arrange for volunteer drivers three days in advance for *medical transportation* Monday through Friday and a week in advance for *Companion Shopping Transportation* on Tuesday afternoons and Friday mornings. Volunteers work in our office at 4019 Olley Lane, Fairfax for three hours every other week. If you can volunteer your time, please contact Barry Wickersham at 703-359-2918.

Public Hearing Increase in Taxicab Rates

Tuesday, September 16, 2014

Time: 7:30 p.m.

The **Consumer Protection Commission** will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING** on a proposed increase in the initial charge from \$3.25 to \$3.50, for an increase in the mileage rate from \$2.10 per mile to \$2.16 per mile, for a change in the billing increment from one-seventh ($1/7^{\text{th}}$) of a mile to one-sixth ($1/6^{\text{th}}$) of a mile, for a change in the waiting-time increment and rate, from \$0.30 per 51 seconds to \$0.36 per 61 seconds, and for a revision regarding general penalties to conform to state law. The revisions to taxicab rates will increase the average taxicab trip of seven miles by approximately 3.5 percent. If you would like to speak at the Public Hearing, please call the Consumer Affairs Branch of the Department of Cable and Consumer Services (formerly the Department of Cable Communications and Consumer Protection) at 703-222-8435 to be placed on the Speakers List, or you may appear and be heard. You can also email comments to consumer@fairfaxcounty.gov until 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 16, 2014

